

T O N B R I D G E A N D S O U T H B O R O U G H
J O I N T H E A L T H A R E A.

Public Health Office,
214, High Street,
Tonbridge.

30th August, 1945.

To the Chairmen and Councillors
of the Tonbridge Rural District Council
and the Tonbridge and Southborough
Urban District Councils.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the health, vital statistics and sanitary circumstances of the above Area for the year 1944.

There have been no serious outbreaks of sickness or disease during the last twelve months.

An outbreak of diphtheria of a very virulent type, which occurred in the parish of Hildenborough in the Tonbridge Rural District did not spread to any serious extent and eventually only 6 cases were notified.

The percentage of children immunised against diphtheria in the combined area has been maintained at a high level, but further sustained effort is required to improve upon the results already obtained.

The importance of immunisation is shown by a recent statement from the Ministry of Health that more children lost their lives during the war from diphtheria than from enemy action.

The Treatment of Scabies was continued throughout the year at the First Aid Posts, and once again, I have to thank the voluntary staffs of these Posts for their help.

A Scheme to replace this temporary arrangement is under consideration.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

R. J. CHAPMAN.

Medical Officer of Health.

TONBRIDGE & SOUTHBOROUGH JOINT HEALTH AREA.STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

W. G. SWANN,

M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., D.R.C.O.G. (joined R.A.M.C.
October 24th, 1942.)

R. J. CHAPMAN, M.C.,

M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. (appointed Acting Medical Officer
of Health, Tonbridge Joint Area, October 26th, 1942).

Medical Officer's Clerk:

Mrs. S. C. Downs.

Tonbridge Rural District.Mr. E.A.P. May, Senior Sanitary Inspector (Cert. as
S.I. and M.I. Assoc. Inst. Mech. E.
Cert. in Building Construction).Mr. J. Hughes, Asst. Sanitary Inspector (Cert. as S.I.
and M.I.) (Joined R.A.F. 29/7/40).Tonbridge Urban District.Mr. M. Jenner, Senior Sanitary Inspector (Cert. as
S.I. and M.I.)Mr. T. Ellison, Asst. Sanitary Inspector (Cert. as S.I.
and M.I. Cert. in Hygiene & Physiology).Southborough Urban District.Mr. T. A. Scott, Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.
(Cert. as S.I.)Mr. G. Barnes, Asst. Sanitary Inspector (resigned
February, 1944.)Mr. R. J. Miller, Asst. Sanitary Inspector (appointed
September, 1944).

HEALTH NURSE:

Mrs. F. Graham, S.R.N., S.C.M. (temporary) appointed
31st August, 1942.

Matron of Tonbridge Joint Isolation Hospital:

Miss E. K. Mackley, S.R.N., S.R.F.N., S.C.M.

TONBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT

1944 HEALTH REPORT.GENERAL STATISTICS.

Population. (estimated resident R.G.) 1944.	19,340
Area (acres) ...	41,687
Rateable Value. ...	£137, 882
Sum represented by a penny rate...	£550
Number of inhabited houses (according to Rate Books) end of 1944.	6,139

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Live (Legitimate	339	164	175
Births (Illegitimate	27	14	13
	<u>366</u>	<u>178</u>	<u>188</u>

BIRTH RATE per 1,000 estimated resident population. 18.9

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Still (Legitimate	5	4	1
Births (Illegitimate	1	-	1
	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>

STILL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 total (live & still) births. 16.1

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Deaths. ...	219	114	105

DEATH RATE per 1,000 estimated resident population 1944. 11.3

Deaths from puerperal causes:-	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.</u>
Puerperal sepsis.	1	2.68
Other causes.	2	5.39
	<u>3</u>	<u>8.07</u>

Death rate Of Infants under one year of age:-

All Infants per 1,000 live births.	...	35.5
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.		38.3
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.		0.0

Deaths from cancer (all ages)	...	29
" " measles (all ages)	...	-
" " whooping cough (all ages)...	...	1
" " diarrhoea. (under 2 years of age)	...	-

TONBRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT.

1944 HEALTH REPORT.GENERAL STATISTICS.

Population (estimated resident R.G.) 1944.	17,320
Area (acres) ...	4,599
Rateable Value. ...	£153,012
Sum represented by a penny rate...	£600
Number of inhabited houses (according to Rate Books) end of 1944. ...	4,919

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Live (Legitimate	311	154	157
Births (Illegitimate	28	17	11
	<u>339</u>	<u>171</u>	<u>168</u>

BIRTH RATE per 1,000 estimated resident population. 19.5

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Still (Legitimate	8	5	3
Births (Illegitimate	1	-	1
	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>

STILL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 total (live & still) births. 25.8

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
DEATHS. ...	216	107	109

DEATH RATE per 1,000 estimated resident population, 1944. 12.5

Deaths from puerperal causes. ... Nil.

Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age:-

All Infants per 1,000 live births. ...	44.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.	41.8
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	71.4

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	28
" " Measles (all ages) ...	-
" " Whooping cough (all ages) ...	-
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	1

SOUTHBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT.

1944 HEALTH REPORT.GENERAL STATISTICS.

Population (estimated resident R.G.) 1944.	7,585
Area (acres)	1,758
Rateable Value.	£63,324
Sum represented by a penny rate. ...	£264
Number of inhabited houses (according to Rate Books) end of 1944. ...	2,456

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Live (Legitimate	103	58	45
Births (Illegitimate	14	9	5
	<u>117</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>50</u>

BIRTH RATE per 1,000 estimated resident population. 15.4

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female..</u>
Still (Legitimate	4	3	1
Births (Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>

STILL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 total (live and still) births. 33.0

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Deaths. ...	134	56	78

DEATH RATE per 1,000 estimated resident population 1944. 17.6

Deaths from puerperal causes:- ... Nil.

Death rate of Infants under One year of age :-

All Infants per 1,000 live births. ...	42.7
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.	38.8
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	71.4

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	22
" " Measles (all ages) ...	-
" " Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	-
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	2

C O M P A R A T I V E R A T E S 1944.

FOR TONBRIDGE & SOUTHBOROUGH JOINT HEALTH AREA AND
ENGLAND & WALES.

	England & Wales.	Tonbridge Rural District.	Tonbridge Urban District.	South- boro' Urban.	Joint Area.
<u>Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population:</u>					
Live Births.	<u>17.6</u>	18.9	19.5	15.4	<u>18.6</u>
Still Births.	<u>0.50</u>	0.31	0.52	0.52	<u>0.43</u>
Deaths (All causes)	<u>11.6</u>	11.3	12.5	17.6	<u>12.9</u>
Typhoid and Paratyphoid.	<u>0.00</u>	0.00	0.00	0.00	<u>0.00</u>
Scarlet fever.	<u>0.00</u>	0.00	0.00	0.00	<u>0.00</u>
Whooping Cough.	<u>0.03</u>	0.05	0.00	0.00	<u>0.02</u>
Diphtheria.	<u>0.02</u>	0.15	0.11	0.00	<u>0.11</u>
Influenza.	<u>0.12</u>	0.26	0.11	0.26	<u>0.20</u>
Smallpox.	<u>0.00</u>	0.00	0.00	0.00	<u>0.00</u>
Measles.	<u>0.01</u>	0.00	0.00	0.00	<u>0.00</u>

Rates per 1,000 Live Births:

Deaths under 1 Year of age.	<u>46</u>	35	44	42	<u>40</u>
Deaths from Diarrhoea & Enteritis under 2 years of age.	<u>4.8</u>	0.0	2.9	17.1	<u>4.0</u>

Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population:

Notifications:-

Typhoid fever.	<u>0.01</u>	0.0	0.05	0.0	<u>0.02</u>
Paratyphoid fever.	<u>0.01</u>	0.0	0.05	0.0	<u>0.02</u>
Cerebro-spinal fever.	<u>0.05</u>	0.0	0.0	0.0	<u>0.0</u>
Scarlet fever.	<u>2.40</u>	1.55	1.56	1.02	<u>1.49</u>
Whooping Cough.	<u>2.49</u>	6.35	3.63	3.95	<u>4.90</u>
Diphtheria.	<u>0.58</u>	0.36	0.23	0.13	<u>0.26</u>
Erysipelas.	<u>0.29</u>	0.10	0.23	0.0	<u>0.13</u>
Smallpox.	<u>0.00</u>	0.00	0.00	0.00	<u>0.00</u>
Measles.	<u>4.16</u>	1.91	5.54	4.08	<u>3.70</u>
Pneumonia.	<u>0.97</u>	2.48	2.07	0.00	<u>1.89</u>

Rates per 1,000 Total (live & still) Births:

(a) Notifications:-

Puerperal Pyrexia)					
Puerperal Fever)	<u>10.34</u>	86.02	11.49	24.8	<u>46.37</u>

(b) Maternal Mortality:-

Puerperal Infections.	<u>0.28</u>	2.68	0.0	0.0	<u>1.18</u>
Other "	<u>1.25</u>	5.40	0.0	0.0	<u>2.37</u>

✓ Of the 32 notifications received for the Rural District of Tonbridge, only one resided in the Area. (See Note re Puerperal Pyrexia under Infectious Diseases section.)

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

A list of the staff of the Public Health Department is given at the beginning of this Report.

Hospitals.

Tonbridge Joint Isolation Hospital, Capel. - Accommodation is provided for patients from the Tonbridge Urban and Tonbridge Rural Districts, suffering from infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis.

Southborough Urban District Council has an agreement with the Tunbridge Wells Corporation whereby any infectious cases, other than tuberculosis, which occur in its District, are admitted to the Borough Sanatorium.

Annual Report of Temporary Health Nurse employed by the
Tonbridge Joint Hospital Committee for the year 1944.

<u>Summary of Visits.</u>	<u>Tonbridge Urban</u>	<u>Tonbridge Rural.</u>
Scarlet fever contacts.	34	40
Contacts examined.	104	78
Swabs taken for haemolytic streptococci.	36	34
Positive results.	5	1
Treatments to above.	3	-
Visits to discharged S.F. patients.	35	25
To Diphtheria Contacts.	15	61
Contacts examined.	36	66
Swabs taken for Diphtheria.	48	30
To Discharged Diphtheria patients.	5	4
To Enteric fever contacts.	2	-
To Measles.	5	1
To Smallpox Contacts.	5	1
Other Visits.	28	35
Expectant Mothers.	-	177
<u>Scabies:-</u>		
Treatments at First Aid Posts.	33	228
Home treatments.	-	9
Investigation and follow up of scabies.	5	87
<u>Schools:-</u>		
Number of visits.	10	6
Children examined.	250	190
Swabs taken for haemolytic streptococci.	9	3
Positive results.	4	1
Swabs taken for Diphtheria.	-	-
<u>Government Evacuation Scheme:-</u>		
re Evacuation of School children, visits to Pembury and Hildenborough First Aid Posts.	-	12
Treatments given for scabies.	-	32
" " " verminous heads.	-	14
	<u>Southborough Urban.</u>	
Visits to scarlet fever contacts.	12	
To Query Diphtheria.	2	
Children examined in own homes.	31	
Swabs taken for haemolytic streptococci.	10	
" " " diphtheria.	6	
Visits to Hospital Discharges.	6	
Visits to Schools.	4	
Children examined at school.	132	

TONBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT - MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

Health Visiting - The following table gives particulars of the visits made by the District Nurses of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing in the various parishes in the Tonbridge Rural District, as supplied by Miss Bath, Superintendent for the West Area of the Kent Nursing Association:-

Parish.	No. of Visits.				
	To Expectant Mothers.		To infants under one yr.		To children 1 - 5 years.
	First.	Subse-quent.	First.	Subse-quent.	
Ashurst & Groombridge.	3	12	4	29	26
Brenchley & Matfield.	24	174	47	168	315
Bidborough.	-	13	6	28	36
Capel, Tudeley & Fve Oak Gn	17	176	9	257	475
Hadlow.	-	-	38	176	401
Hildenborough.	21	104	38	152	122
Horsmonden.	23	68	37	132	179
Lamberhurst.	12	92	18	157	318
Langton Green.	5	22	7	35	46
Paddock Wood.	25	161	20	317	426
Pembury.	29	59	39	270	306
Speldhurst.	8	67	13	115	134
	167	948	276	1836	2784

In addition to the above, 110 special visits were made during the year and 232 fruitless visits in the various parishes.

Infant Welfare Centres. - The following figures give the attendances of children and mothers at the 11 child welfare centres in Tonbridge Rural District, provided by Voluntary Associations and aided by the District Council. The Centres are held fortnightly and attended by the District Nurses for the various parishes, and the Welfare Medical Officer attends once a month.

Centres.	Attendances by children.			No. of Sessions in year.	Total attendances by Mothers.
	Under 1 yr.	1 - 5 years.	Total.		
Bidborough.	48	152	200	23	164
Brenchley.	283	497	780	22	718
Capel.	88	286	374	22	271
Hadlow.	66	45	111	23	120
Hildenborough	369	241	610	29	520
Horsmonden.	191	306	497	23	453
Lamberhurst.	232	389	621	22	499
Langton.	116	281	397	17	308
Paddock Wood.	211	318	529	22	414
Pembury.	198	311	510	22	386
Speldhurst	164	255	439	18	354
Total (all Centres.)	1966	3081	5068	243	4207

Ante-Natal Scheme.

In connection with the above Scheme 91 expectant mothers were ante-natally examined by medical practitioners and 12 were post-natally examined.

Orthopaedic Scheme.

No patients received treatment under the above Scheme during the year.

Dental Scheme.

Five mothers received treatment during the year under this Scheme.

Care of Premature Infants & Illegitimate Children.

The District Nurses acting as Health Visitors, visit and advise mothers with regard to premature infants.

Regarding the care of illegitimate children a contribution of five guineas is made by the Tonbridge Rural District Council in respect of each case admitted from this Area into one of the Homes of the Rochester Diocesan Society.

A contribution of £5.0.0 per annum is also made by the Tonbridge Rural District Council towards the local branch of the above.

Child Life Protection.

No. of persons receiving children for reward at the end of the year :- 19

No. of children:

(i) at the end of the year	...	23
(ii) who died during the year.	...	-
(iii) on whom inquests were held.	...	-

No. of child protection visitors at end of year who were:-

(i) Health Visitors.	...	2
(ii) Female, other than Health Visitors.	...	7
(iii) Male.	...	-

No proceedings were taken during the year.

NURSING HOMES.

There are no Nursing Homes in the Tonbridge Rural Area.

In the Tonbridge Urban District, 3 Homes were on the Register at the end of the year with a total of 17 beds, 5 for maternity and 12 for other cases.

Southborough Urban has two registered Nursing Homes with accommodation for 11 maternity patients and 19 others.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supplies.

With respect to the Tonbridge Rural District, most of the area is supplied by main water supply under the control of 5 waterworks authorities including one small estate supply. All have been regularly sampled and submitted to bacteriological examination. The principal supplies have been found to be satisfactory and of ample quantity. The small estate supply referred to has failed from time to time after prolonged rainfall. Various measures have been and continue to be taken to improve this.

As will be seen from the annual report of the Sanitary Inspector, 13 samples from main supply were taken for bacteriological examination and one chemical. The sources of water supply are situated in other areas so that most of the examinations made are of water in course of distribution.

Lead service pipes are not in general use in the rural area and there have been no cases of contamination by lead arising from main supplies.

Action has been taken in respect of the small estate supply referred to above. Although there has been no direct occurrence of contamination some precautions as regards the use of manure and ensuring isolation of drainage systems has been carried out.

Practically all houses in the rural area are connected to main supplies and in most cases it is laid on direct to the houses. There are a few isolated cases served by standpipe and other sources of supply but it is intended to deal with these as soon as circumstances permit.

The Tonbridge Urban District is supplied by the Tonbridge Waterworks Company, and the water has been satisfactory both as regards quality and quantity.

Regular samples of the water are taken by the Sanitary Inspector, in addition to those taken by the Company, and during the year 14 bacteriological examinations were made, all proved satisfactory.

The waters are not liable to be affected by plumbo-solvent action.

There is no form of contamination, but the water is sterilized by chlorination.

It is estimated that there are only a few houses in the country district which are not supplied from the public water mains. As far as is known, there are no houses supplied by means of standpipes.

Southborough Urban District - The quantity of water supplied from the Council's works at Modest Corner and Hayesden is insufficient for the needs of the District, and water in bulk is supplied by the Tonbridge Waterworks Company.

Samples of water are sent each month for bacteriological and chemical examination.

The supply is constant and practically the whole of the dwelling-houses in Southborough are supplied from the Works directly to the houses.

Drainage & Sewerage.

No important alterations, improvements or developments have been made in the Area during the year.

Scavenging & Deposition of Household Refuse.

Refuse collection and disposal have been maintained throughout the Area during the year.

TONBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICTSANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 1944.HOUSING.

Defects, as follows, received attention despite the difficulty of owners in finding builders. These have been engaged mainly in dealing with air raid damage but have been released to deal with some of the urgent maintenance work as occasion warrants.

Walls.

No. rendered dry by insertion of effective damp proof course.	4
No. repaired (including tile hangings, weather boarding, re-plastering etc.)	1
No. rebuilt and/or foundations underpinned.	2

Chimneys.

No. of chimney stacks taken down and re-built.	2
No. of chimney stacks provided with lead flashings, tray damp proof courses or re-pointed.	6
No. of fireplaces or flues re-constructed.	3

External Paving.

No. of houses provided with impervious paving.	1
No. of houses where paving repaired.	5

Roofs.

No. of houses of which roof stripped, re-battened and tiles or slated.	6
No. of houses of which roofs were repaired.	6
No. of houses of which roofs were provided with new guttering or downspouts.	5
No. of houses of which roof guttering repaired.	3

Floors.

No. of ventilated floors substituted for damp brick floors	4
No. of waterproofed concrete floors substituted for damp brick floors	3
No. of existing floors repaired, sub-floor ventilation provided or improved, etc.	12

Lighting & Ventilation.

No. of new windows constructed in houses.	2
No. of existing windows repaired.	7

Water Supply & Drainage.

Water supply extended and laid on over sinks.	6
No. of glazed stoneware sinks provided and fixed	9
No. of water closets provided with automatic flushing apparatus.	11
No. of new water closet compartments complete with pedestal pan and flushing apparatus provided.	21
No. of closets converted to water closets.	10
No. of new drainage lengths laid.	17
No. of new drainage systems complete with septic tank etc.	10

Miscellaneous.

Coppers provided or rebuilt.	6
Ceilings renewed or repaired.	14
Cooking ranges renewed or repaired.	21
Rooms re-decorated.	7
No. of houses re-decorated externally.	3
No. of dustbins provided.	7

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS') ACTS 1926-38.

Applications for financial assistance have been submitted in respect of 5 cottages in this area, each of which it is proposed to completely re-condition and to provide modern standards of accommodation.

COUNTY HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

A Joint County Committee on Rural Housing has now been formed "to consider ways and means of improving the general level of rural housing throughout the country under existing statutory powers". The Committee held its first meeting in January, 1945.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supplies.

All main supplies were subjected to routine examination during the year and except for one small supply system proved to be satisfactory. In the case of the exception samples submitted in November were found to contain typical B. coli in 100 ccs. It is evident that surface water pollutes this supply during periods of heavy and prolonged rainfall.

No. of samples taken during the year:

Public Supplies:-	Bacteriological	13
	Chemical	1
Private Supplies:-	Bacteriological	8
	Chemical	11
		<u>33</u>

Extension of Mains.

The main supply in Hadlow was extended from Goose Green to Park Farm and three small holdings under the Agricultural (Miscellaneous) Provisions Bill. Approximately 1 mile of piping was laid including .35 miles of 1½" W.I. pipe.

In Pembury the main supply was similarly extended from Kippings Cross to Dundale Farm.

Bullingstone Lane, Speldhurst.

The shortage of water supply in this area during drought periods has been alleviated by the provision of a standpipe supplied from an existing connexion to the main.

Rural Water Supplies & Sewerage Act, 1944.

Some preliminary work has been done in isolated areas under this scheme and when conditions permit schemes of improvement will be prepared.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supplies. There are 127 registered producers of milk in the Rural District of which 36 retail from the farm. In addition 23 persons are registered as retail purveyors only.

During the year 209 inspections of dairy farms were made at milking time. Improvements of the methods of production have been obtained in many instances. There are 30 producers of graded milk in the district.

Four milking sheds and one dairy were completely re-constructed during the year.

Steam sterilization was installed in 9 dairy premises.

Designated Milk.

There has been little change in the number of graded Milk Producers during the year. The present position is that 14 are producing accredited milk and 16 tuberculin tested milk.

The total number of milk samples taken on behalf of the Licencing Authority was 100 of which 78 proved to be satisfactory.

Biological Milk Examinations.

Seven samples of milk were taken and examined for the presence of tubercle bacillus. These proved to be negative.

One school milk sample was found to contain tubercle bacillus and the milk supply from a group of cows in the herd affected was stopped until the infected animal was removed and slaughtered.

Supplies to Schools.

Supplies to schools in this area continue as before. During the year 7 samples were examined by the County Pathologist, all of which reached the required standard of cleanliness.

Food Inspection.

The following quantities of foodstuffs were condemned in 1944.

			cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Meat	...	...	6	1	4
Fats and Cheese	...	...		10	6
Sugar	...	...		2	20
<u>Tinned Foods:-</u>					
Meat	...	...	4	2	17
Fish	...	...			27
Soup	...	...			12
Milk	...	...	3	2	27
Peas and Beans	...	...			16
Miscellaneous	...	...		7	26

1 ton. 0 cwt. 1qr. 15 lbs.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

Considerably increased attention has been given to this work during the year. Arrangements are made for co-operation of local authorities by means of the Workable Area Committee which meets quarterly. The Council have employed an operator for the work of destruction. Approximately 1,200 rodents were destroyed in 1944 of which total one-third were found on domestic premises.

COMPLAINTS.

During the year a total of 173 complaints were made by residents in the district, dealing with miscellaneous matters, among which were included housing complaints, water supplies and infestations. All of these were dealt with as far as possible.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Number of inspections of factories and workshops	3
" " " " bakehouses.	3

DISINFECTING, CLEANSING &C. OF PREMISES.

The number of houses disinfected in connexion with cases of infectious disease was 47.

The number of houses disinfested was 34 and Zaldecide was the Insecticide used for the purpose.

SUPERVISION OF HOP-PICKERS' ENCAMPMENTS.

Hop-picking started during the week commencing 3rd September and was completed by 30th September.

The number of camps occupied was 91; the total number of people engaged in picking this year was 14,450 as compared with 15,702 in 1943.

Unfortunately there was considerable interference with the work of structural improvement to hop-pickers camps as a result of damage to property by enemy action, so much so that work ceased as from June. Nevertheless, 76 new huts were erected since the last season as well as additional cookhouses and other facilities. Patrolling of camps was continued and there has been a general improvement in sanitary conditions despite the many difficulties which hop growers have been faced with.

The wet weather experienced emphasises once again the need for more and properly constructed cookhouses which may also be used for drying clothes. Visits were not made by representatives of the Ministry of Health this year.

CAMP SITES.

Three camp sites were occupied during 1944. Despite the usual difficulties these were cleared.

E.A.P. May.

Sanitary Inspector.

STATISTICAL DATA.

	No. in District.	No. of visits in 1944.	No. of faults & defects found.	No. of faults & defects remedied.
Bakehouses.	19	3	7	7
Dairies.	163	209	see separate statement.	
Slaughterhouses.				
Registered)	No change since 1941.			
Licenced.)				
Other food preparing places which are, as such, subject to inspection.	125	32	-	-
Offensive Trades	nil	-	-	-
Common Lodging Houses	nil	-	-	-
Houses let in lodgings	nil	-	-	-
Factories)	8)	3	-	-
Workshops)	49)			
Workplaces, other than outworkers homes.	nil	-	-	-

Nuisances and defects remedied during the year other than those enumerated in the above tabulation.

Overcrowding.	4	Refuse receptacles	7
Keeping of animals	-	Tents, vans and sheds	3
Hop-pickers' camps(see report)		Smoke nuisances	1
Sanitary accommodation:		Chimneys rebuilt	2
1. Insufficient	31	Yard paving	6
2. Defective	41	Dampness	4
Drainage:		Roofs & rainwater pipes	6
1. Reconstructed	10	Floors	19
2. Repaired	6	Walls & ceilings	19
3. Cleansed.	2	Windows & ventilation	5
Cesspools:		Baths, lavatory basins	
1. Abolished	-	& sinks	12
2. Repaired	9	Water supplies	3
Offensive accumulation	2	Miscellaneous	37

Total number of visits of all kinds by by Inspector during the year. 2,386

Amount of food condemned during the year (including approximate weight of items which have not been weighed).

1 ton 0 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lbs.

TONERIDGE URBAN DISTRICT.TABULAR STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 1944.

Showing the number and nature of inspections made by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and the additional Sanitary Inspector; the number of notices served during the year, distinguishing statutory from other notices, and the result of the service of such notices.

1. Total number of visits of all kinds made during the year	2,150
Number of informal notices given for sanitary and housing defects	220
Number of statutory notices served under the Public Health or Housing Acts,	5

2. Inspection of Food and of Food Preparing & Food Storage Places.
 The Food & Drugs Act, 1938. The Milk & Dairies Order, 1926.
 The Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938.
 The Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

<u>Bakehouses.</u>	No. in District	14
	No. of visits	54
	No. of defects found & remedied.	3
	No. of underground bakehouses.	nil

Milk & Dairies - Dairymen

No. of producers of milk	9
No. of retail purveyors of milk	20
No. of Dealers licenced under the Milk (Special Designations) Order.	3

Dairies.

No. in District	17
No. of visits	93
No. of faults found & remedied.	2

Milk Examinations. - 17 samples of milk were collected from farms at the request of the County Licensing Authority and these were sent for bacteriological examination or examination by the methylene blue test, in order to satisfy the conditions relating to licences granted under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders.

Slaughterhouses.

No. in District.	6
No. licenced in 1944.	1
No. of visits.	8
No. of defects found & remedied.	nil

Carcases killed & inspected during the year and the extent of Condemnations

27 pigs were inspected at the only licensed slaughterhouse.
 It was not found necessary to condemn any carcase, part or organ.

Total amount of food condemned during the year :-

1 ton 16 cwts 2 qtrs 7 lbs.

Food Preparing Places.

No. of food preparing places subject to registration.	29
No. of premises registered for the manufacture, sale or storage, of ice cream.	21
No. of visits made to such premises.	69
No. of faults found and remedied.	7

3. Domestic Water Supplies.

(The Public Health Act, 1936, Sections 111 - 116)

14 samples of water were collected and forwarded for analysis or examination. All the results were satisfactory.

4. Infectious Disease.

(The Public Health Act, 1936. Sections 143 - 175)

No. of visits.	51
No. of premises disinfected.	36
Lots of bedding & clothing removed for steam disinfectn.	24

5. Factories. (The Factories Act, 1937)

No. in District.	111
No. of visits.	77
Number of defects found and remedied.	10

6. Nuisances & Offensive Trades.

(The Public Health Act, 1936, Sections 91 - 110)

Nuisances (including sanitary and housing defects) dealt with during the year :-

Accumulations (Offensive)	5	Drainage:-	
Animals (keeping of)	4	Reconstructed	Nil
Dustbins (renewed)	87	Repaired	7
Coppers (defective)	2	Cleansed	33
Dampness	13	Floors(defective)	13
Gutters, roofs &c(defective)	18	Sanitary accommodation:	
Sinks & Baths (installed or renewed)	1	Insufficient	nil
Walls & Ceilings(defective)	18	Defective	21
Water supplies(Unsatisfactory services re-instated)	14	Stoves(defective)	10
Yard paving etc(defective)	nil	Windows(defective)	11
		Other defects	64

Offensive Trades -

No. in District.	1
No. of visits.	2
No. of defects found and remedied.	nil

7. Rats & Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

A workman was engaged on rat destruction work from the 9th February, 1944. From this time the Council's refuse tip has been regularly treated, and all the complaints of rats on private premises have received attention.

8. Eradication of Bed Bugs :-

- (1) No. of houses found or reported to be infested. 11
- (2) The methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs include fumigation with sulphur candles, and cleansing and spraying with insecticides.
- (3) Council houses are treated by the Council's staff; private houses are treated by builders and by owners and occupiers as necessary.

The measures taken by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or reinfestation after cleansing, include inspection, and the giving of advice verbally and in printed form.

M. Jenner.

Senior Sanitary Inspector,
Tonbridge U.D.C.

17.

SOUTHBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1944.

<u>Water Supply.</u> - Particulars of samples taken during Year:-			
	<u>Bacteriological.</u>	<u>Chemical.</u>	
Public Supplies.	24	12	
Private supplies.	2	2	
total.	<u>26</u>	<u>14</u>	

Inspection & Supervision of Food.

Milk Supplies:-	No. of producers	6.	No. of retailers	5.
	No. of producer retailers	4.		
	2 Dairies in course of construction during the year.			
No. of farms licenced to produce :-	<u>Samples taken.</u>		<u>No. Unsatisfactory.</u>	
(i) "Accredited" milk	1.	5	-	
(ii) "Tuberculin tested".	1.	6	1	

Meat Inspection.

Nine carcasses and 53 parts of carcasses were condemned on account of tuberculosis during the year.

Total amount of food condemned during year was:-

2 tons. 17 cwts. 1 qr. 21½ lbs.

	<u>No. in District.</u>	<u>No. of visits.</u>	<u>No. of Defects remedied.</u>
Bakehouses.	6	18	-
Licenced Slaughterhouses.	2	178	-

Total visits paid during the year relating to Milk supplies.	45
Other Foods.	25

Housing.

There is an acute shortage of houses in the district.

As regards post-war housing plans, a two years programme is approved for 100 houses. 30 temporary.

Defects remedied during the year (excluding war damage)

Defective closet accommodation.	13
Drainage systems reconstructed or repaired.	9
Refuse receptacles.	23
Defective roofs.	5
Defective walls.	1
Defective windows including new windows provided.	1
Defective floors.	6
Miscellaneous items.	1
Total number of visits during the year.	398

Other statistical data:-

	<u>No. in District.</u>	<u>No. of visits.</u>	<u>No. of faults & defects found.</u>	<u>No. faults & defects remedied.</u>
Offensive trades	nil			
Common lodging houses	nil			
Houses let-in-lodgings	nil			
Factories.	8.	30	1	1
Workshops	75	127	-	-
Workplaces.	2	2	-	-

Infestation.

The number of houses inspected on account of infestation was 10. These were disinfested by means of Thermatox and Sanitas Formigators.

T. A. Scott.
Sanitary Inspector.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR:

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.			Total Cases admitted to Hospital.			Total Deaths.		
	Ton- bdge R.D.	Ton- bdge U.D.	South- boro' U.D.	Ton- bdge R.D.	Ton- bdge U.D.	South- boro' U.D.	Ton- bdge R.D.	Ton- bdge U.D.	South- boro' U.D.
Scarlet fever.	30	27	9	29	27	9	-	-	-
Diphtheria.	7	4	1	6	4	1	3	2	-
Enteric fever.	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Ac. Poliomyelitis.	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	26	3	-	22	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria.	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	32	4	3	32	3	1	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia.	48	36	-	26	2	-	4	-	-
Erysipelas.	2	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Measles.	37	96	31	-	2	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	123	63	30	-	-	-	-	-	-
	308	241	75	119	40	12	7	2	-

Scarlet Fever. - A total of 66 cases were notified in the Joint Area during the year 1944, compared with 105 cases in the previous year. There were no deaths in 1944. The age-periods of the cases were as follows:-

<u>0-1</u>	<u>1-3</u>	<u>3-5</u>	<u>5-10</u>	<u>10-15</u>	<u>15-20</u>	<u>20-30</u>	<u>30-40</u>	<u>40 & over</u>	66
1	8	12	26	8	3	2	5	1	

The home and school contacts were visited by the Health Nurse and examinations carried out for any symptoms of sore throat, ear or nasal discharge, swabs being taken where considered necessary; in cases which gave positive results, treatment was given or referred to own doctor.

Two hop-picker cases occurred in the Tonbridge Rural District.

One household in Tonbridge had six cases, the source of infection was traced to a child who had come from Gloucester and was desquamating.

Diphtheria. - Twelve cases were notified in the 3 Districts of my Area during the year with 5 deaths compared with the same number of cases and 1 death during the year 1943. Tonbridge Rural District had 7 cases with 3 deaths, Tonbridge Urban 4 cases and 2 deaths and Southborough Urban 1 case. The age-periods were:-

<u>3-5</u>	<u>5-10</u>	<u>10-15</u>	<u>15-20</u>	<u>40-45</u>	
1	6	3	1	1	= 12

During the last week in December an outbreak of diphtheria occurred in Hildenborough parish in the Tonbridge Rural District, which was exceedingly serious, not on account of the number of persons affected, but because of the deadly virulence of the type of the causal diphtheria bacillus.

The first two cases, two brothers, Albert and Brian Anderson, were sent into the Isolation Hospital by Dr. Davison on Saturday evening, December 23rd. Albert, aged 6, died on the same day, and his brother Brian aged 12, died three days later, i.e. on December 26th.

On Sunday, December 24th, whilst carrying out the routine swabbing of contacts, the Health Nurse Mrs. Graham, discovered that another brother, Nevelle Anderson aged 9, was suffering from sores in the nostrils and a blood stained nasal discharge. As a precautionary measure the boy was sent into hospital, and swabs which have been taken subsequently revealed the presence of diphtheria bacilli. This child I was informed, had been poorly for about a week as from December 11th; the mother and the three boys had been staying in Ashton-under-Lyne, and had returned to Hildenborough on December 9th. None of these three boys had been immunised, and all had been at school a few days prior to their illness.

Another case of diphtheria occurred on Sunday, December 24th, Dr. Davison was called in to see a boy named David Wills, aged 7, who died before his arrival, the post mortem examination showed that the cause of death was diphtheria, and a swab taken from the throat proved to be positive. This boy had been immunised in 1941.

In view of the menacing situation which had arisen it was decided that all possible contacts of these cases should have the opportunity of protection; the fact that the school had broken up for the holidays made this procedure rather more difficult than usual, but on Monday, December 25th, the homes of all known contacts were visited and children and adults were given an injection of 500 units of antitoxin, and the cases which had not previously been immunised, were also given an injection of A.P.T.

A fifth case, John Gould, aged 9, was removed to Hospital on December 27th, and a sixth, Eileen Shilling, aged 10, was sent into hospital on December 29th. John Gould had been immunised in 1942 and Eileen Shilling in 1941. Neither of these children had a very serious attack, and both did well. No further cases were notified.

I should like to express my gratitude to Dr. Davison, and to Mrs. Graham, without whose help it would not have been possible to visit and inject 62 cases on one day. (December 25th).

One hop-picker case, a boy aged 8 years from Horsmonden was removed to Capel Hospital, a tracheotomy was performed and the patient recovered.

The four Urban cases, 2 of which proved fatal, were notified during the September quarter, none of them had been immunised. The first case was an adult female who was removed to Capel Hospital and recovered. The second case occurred in a youth aged 15½ years who worked in a factory; he was removed to Capel Hospital and died 10 days later. The home and factory contacts were visited and swabs taken by the Health Nurse, all of which proved negative. Three days after the removal of this patient, a second case occurred in this family of a child aged 5 years who was also admitted to Capel Hospital. The fourth case occurred in an only child aged 3 years who was removed to Capel Hospital but died two days later. Contacts were swabbed by the Health Nurse, these proved negative.

The Southborough Urban case occurred in a boy aged 10 years who had not been immunised. He was removed to the Tunbridge Wells Borough Sanatorium.

Enteric Fever.

Two cases, one of typhoid and one of paratyphoid fever were notified, the former occurred in a soldier aged 18 years who was transferred to a military hospital and the latter was of a civilian adult male who was nursed at home and made a good recovery.

Acute Poliomyelitis.

One case was notified from the County Hospital, Pembury, in a child aged $2\frac{1}{2}$ years.

Dysentery.

Twenty-six cases of Sonne Dysentery were notified in Tonbridge Rural District (22 at County Hospital, Pembury) and 3 cases occurred in the Tonbridge Urban District.

Malaria.

One case occurred in each of the three Districts, 2 in members of H.M. Forces who were removed to military Hospitals.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

Twenty-three of the cases occurred at the County Hospital, Pembury, 8 at Moatlands Hospital for Mothers & Babies, Paddock Wood, and 1 at Northfield Maternity Home, Langton.

With one exception, all of the above cases of puerperal pyrexia were from Districts outside the Tonbridge Rural area.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Two cases were notified, 1 in Tonbridge Rural District and 1 in Tonbridge Urban District, both cases were treated in hospital.

Pneumonia.

A total of 84 cases were notified in the Area, 48 in Tonbridge Rural District and 36 in Tonbridge Urban District; 26 of the former and 2 of the latter were treated in hospital. 4 deaths resulted.

Erysipelas.

Two cases were notified in Tonbridge Rural District and 4 in Tonbridge Urban; 1 of the former was admitted to hospital.

Measles.

Medical Practitioners notified 164 cases during the year, 37 Tonbridge Rural, 96 Tonbridge Urban, 31 Southborough Urban.

Whooping Cough.

This disease was fairly prevalent during the year, a total of 216 cases were notified; 123 cases Tonbridge Rural, 63 cases Tonbridge Urban and 30 cases Urban of Southborough.

Scabies. - Treatment of scabies and verminous conditions in the Tonbridge Urban and Southborough Urban Districts was carried out during the year at the First Aid Posts, particulars of which are as follows:-

	<u>Treatments.</u>
Tonbridge - First Aid Post No. I Dry Hill House	43
" - First Aid Post No. II Quarry Hill.	134
Southborough - Old Hall First Aid Post.	150

Scabies cases in Tonbridge R.D. were treated by the Health Nurse & Mrs. Sturgeon who was engaged to assist in this work, at the Pembury & Paddock Wood F.A. Posts and in a few cases, in the homes, particulars of which are given in the Health Nurse's report on page 7.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION SCHEME.

Under the above Scheme adopted by the Tonbridge Rural, Tonbridge Urban and Southborough Urban Districts, general practitioners are employed by the respective Councils, and paid according to the B.M.A. Scale, i.e. 3/- per injection (2 injections completing the course of immunisation). A.P.T. is the prophylactic used which is supplied free by the Ministry of Health Laboratories.

The following figures show the number of children immunised up to the end of 1944.

	<u>Completed Course.</u>		<u>One injection only.</u>	
	<u>Under 5 years.</u>	<u>5 years & over.</u>	<u>Under 5 years.</u>	<u>5 years & over.</u>
Tonbridge Rural.	1175	2299	28	59
Tonbridge Urban.	951	1889	37	76
Southborough Urban.	480	754	2	8
	2606	4942	67	143

The number of diphtheria cases which occurred in the Joint Area during 1944 totalled 12, 7 in Tonbridge Rural District with 3 deaths and 4 in Tonbridge Urban with 2 deaths. Of the Rural cases, 3 had been immunised (1 fatal) they all occurred in the 5-15 age group; none of the Urban cases had been immunised, the age-groups of these cases were 1 under 5 years, 1 between 5 and 15 years, and 2 over 15 years; the Southborough case had not been immunised and was in the 5-15 age-group.

The percentage of children immunised at the end of 1944, according to figures obtained as to the estimated number of children in the respective Districts was as follows:-

	<u>Under 5 years.</u>	<u>5 years & over.</u>
Tonbridge Rural.	85%	76%
Tonbridge Urban.	76%	87%
Southborough Urban	86%	79%

During the year 1944, the number of children immunised in the three Districts were as follows:-

	<u>Under 5 years.</u>	<u>5 years & over.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Tonbridge Rural.	143	42	185
Tonbridge Urban.	134	39	173
Southborough Urban	55	10	65

Tuberculosis.

The number of new cases notified during 1944 is shown in the following table, for the respective Districts :-

Age-Periods.	New Cases.											
	Pulmonary.						Non-Pulmonary.					
	T. R.		T. U.		S. U.		T. R.		T. U.		S. U.	
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-
15 -	3	3	2	1	1	1	2	-	1	-	-	-
25 -	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
35 -	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
45 -	1	-	2	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and up	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	10	8	4	6	1	3	-	4	3	2	-	-

The table hereunder shows the deaths which occurred in the Area during the year :-

Age Periods.	Deaths.											
	Pulmonary.						Non-Pulmonary.					
	T. R.		T. U.		S. U.		T. R.		T. U.		S. U.	
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
5 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
45 -	3	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 -	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and up	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	5	3	6	4	2	1	1	1	1	1	-	-

I N D E X.

SUBJECT.	Tonbridge	Tonbridge	Southboro'	Joint
	Rural.	Urban.	Urban.	Area.
	P	A	G	E	S
Drainage & Sewerage.	14	16	17	9
Diphtheria Immunisation.	21	21	21	21
Food Inspections.	12	15	17	-
Health Nurse's Report.	6	6	6	6
Hop-pickers' Camps.	13	-	-	-
Hospitals.	6	6	6	6
Housing.	10	15	17	-
Infestation.	13	16	17	-
Infant Welfare Centres.	7	-	-	-
Infectious Diseases.	18-20	18-20	18-20	18-20
Maternity & Child Welfare Services.	7-8	-	-	-
Nursing Homes.	8	8	8	8
Public Health Staff.	1	1	1	1
Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.	11	15	17	9
Scabies.	6, 20	6, 20	6, 20	6, 20
Statistics & Comparative Rates.	2, 5	3, 5	4, 5	5
Water Supplies.	11	16	17	9

